

TOWN OF MANSFIELD
Energy Education Team
Minutes of the Meeting
May 25, 2010

Present: Britton (chair), Williams, Nash, Millius, Walton (staff), Hoyle, Spurlock

The meeting began at 7:06 p.m.

The minutes from the April 20, 2010 meeting were reviewed and accepted.

Walton reported that at the April 29, 2010 sustainability committee meeting, Mark Paquette, from the Windham Region Council of Government (WINCOG), briefed the committee on their effort to create a 22 town district that encompasses most of the Quinebaug-Shetucket corridor towns (the "last green valley"). By designating a district, federal funds will be readily available for regional planning projects. A UConn student intern will be working for the Town this summer to add 2008-2009 data to the small town carbon calculator. At the next sustainability committee meeting, Wednesday, May 26, 2010, Dr. Richard Parnas will brief the committee on UConn's biodiesel production.

Hoyle reported that Governor Rell vetoed the renewable energy bill.

Walton sent a letter to the participants of the energy challenge reminding them to send in their May and June 2009 and 2010 electricity bills, and asking them to sign up for clean energy.

Walton reported that the Town has earned three (almost four) kilowatts of solar panels. She is working with Connecticut Innovations to see if the additional panels can be added to the existing 3 kilowatt system on EO Smith's rooftop. EO Smith staff has expressed an interest in having another ribbon-cutting once the installation is complete. 7.4% of (416) Mansfield ratepayers are signed up for CleanEnergyOptions. The Town has earned 482 points.

It was decided that the team will focus on getting 18 more CleanEnergyOptions sign ups to reach 500 points, which will award another 1 kilowatt system to the Town. Staff will advertise in the local papers, ask the EO Smith Cool-It Team to promote 18 more sign-ups within the school community and look into having a table display at the June library book sale and the farmer's market. The display will be updated. The other immediate focus is to increase the number of home energy audits by using the strategies that the Woodbridge Energy Task Force has used through an agreement with Competitive Resources, Inc. Walton will work on this arrangement.

Nash reported that the Mansfield Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation is still interested in solar electric systems, even though incentive money is no longer available. Britton

suggested that the nursing center consider solar thermal, as there is money for commercial systems. Nash will direct the Mansfield Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation to Ed Austin, chair of the Juniper Hill Village board of directors. Through a stimulus grant, Juniper Hill Village will be putting a solar system on their roof. Nash will also refer Mansfield Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation administrators to Dan Britton for more information.

The next meeting is schedule for June 15, 2010.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Virginia Walton
Recycling/Refuse Coordinator

Cc: Lon R. Hultgren, Director of Public Works, Members, file, Town Manager, Town Clerk